

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment replaces claims 6, 7, 8, and 15 (Amended Sheets) with new claims 6, 7, 8, and 15, which have been amended as shown in the attached marked-up copy to eliminate multiple claim dependency.

Claims 1-15 are pending in this U.S. National Stage Application.

An early action on the merits is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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MARKED-UP VERSION OF CLAIMS 1-15 OF THE
AMENDED SHEET(S):

1. (Maintained) A lining or shape element for means of transportation, comprising at least one microperforated sheet absorber having a proportion of hole area of from 0.2 to 4%, wherein the holes of said microperforated sheet absorber for the microperforation have one or more diameters within a range of from 0.05 mm to 2 mm and one or more interhole distances within a range of from 1 mm to 20 mm, and at least one foam and/or non-woven absorber at a spatial distance from a reverberant wall.

2. (Maintained) The lining or shape element according to claim 1, characterized by comprising wheel housings, hoods, hood linings, engine encapsulations, heat transfer plates, vehicle shields, transmission tunnel linings, dashboards, vehicle seats, seat backs, armrests, steering wheels, carpetings, especially carpets, roof linings, pillar linings, door linings, passenger compartment linings, luggage shelves, rear shelves, heat shields and/or trunk linings.

3. (Maintained) The lining or shape element according to claim 1, characterized in that said microperforated sheet absorber has a proportion of hole area of from 0.3 to 2%, based on the surface area of the absorber.

4. (Maintained) The lining or shape element according to claim 1, characterized in that the holes of said microperforated sheet absorber for the microperforation have one or more diameters within a range of from 0.1 mm to 0.8 mm and one or more interhole distances within a range of from 1 mm to 3 mm.

5. (Maintained) The lining or shape element according to claim 1, characterized by including several microperforated sheet absorbers, especially having respectively different hole diameters per microperforated sheet absorber and respectively different interhole distances per microperforated sheet absorber.

6. (Once amended) The lining or shape element according to claim 1 [one or more of claims 1 to 5], characterized in that said microperforated sheet absorber has a proportion of hole area macroperforation of from 2 to 20%, based on the surface area of the absorber.

7. (Once amended) The lining or shape element according to claim 1 [one or more of claims 1 to 6], characterized in that the contiguous surface area for a macroperforation is from 6 mm² to 40,000 mm².

8. (Once amended) The lining or shape element according to claim 1 [one or more of claims 1 to 7], characterized in that the holes for the microperforation are homogeneously distributed over the surface of the absorber, or are concentrated on one or several places of the absorber with the same hole diameters and the same open surface area.

9. (Maintained) The lining or shape element according to claim 1, characterized in that the layer thickness of a microperforated sheet absorber is from 0.2 mm to 5 mm, especially from 0.2 mm to 2 mm.

10. (Maintained) The lining or shape element according to claim 1, characterized in that the material of said microperforated sheet absorber comprises plastics, leather, cork, wood, rubber, textiles, glass and/or metals.

11. (Maintained) The lining or shape element according to claim 1, characterized in that said element is multilayered, wherein the layers consist of the same material or the individual layers consist of different materials.

12. (Maintained) The lining or shape element according to claim 1, characterized in that the mutual distance of the microperforated sheet absorbers is constant in the case where at least 3 microperforated sheet absorbers are present.

13. (Maintained) The lining or shape element according to claim 1, characterized in that the mutual distance of the microperforated sheet absorbers is different in the case where at least 3 microperforated sheet absorbers are present.

14. (Maintained) The lining or shape element according to claim 1, characterized in that the thickness of the material, the interhole distance and the hole diameters vary over the element.

15. (Once amended) The lining or shape element according to claim 1 [one or more of claims 1 to 14], characterized in that said means of transportation comprise motor vehicles, especially passenger cars, trucks, busses, motor bikes, track-bound vehicles, especially locomotive engines, waggons and streetcars, vessels and airplanes.